

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Amended) A hollow shell article formed of three joined molded plastic parts, comprising:

a first end part having an accessible first external partial shell surfaces, said first end part having a first mating edge structure,

a second end part having an accessible second external partial shell surfaces said second part having a second mating edge structure, and

a third intermediate part having an external surface with a predetermined width, wherein said third intermediate part includes a selected decorative shape designed for viewing by a viewer, which extends for a predetermined width and extending for a predetermined distance between the first and second mating edge structures said third part including third and fourth mating edges arranged to engage said first and second mating edges respectively, wherein at least a portion of the intermediate part including the decorative shape is coextensive with the first edge mating structure, and wherein at least a portion of the intermediate part including the decorative shape is coextensive with the second edge mating structure.

2. (Original) An article as specified in claim 1 wherein one of said first and third mating edges comprises an external ledge and the other of said first and third edges comprises an internal ledge.

3. (Original) An article as specified in claim 2 wherein each of said ledges is formed of a cylindrical surface and a perpendicular surface.

4. (Original) An article as specified in claim 3 wherein said perpendicular surfaces are non-planar.
5. (Original) An article as specified in claim 1 wherein one of said first and third mating edges comprises a ridge and the other of said first and third mating edges comprises a groove.
6. (Original) An article as specified in claim 5 wherein each of said ridge and said groove are defined by two cylindrical surfaces and a perpendicular surface.
7. (Original) An article as specified in claim 6 wherein said perpendicular surfaces are non-planar.
8. (Original) A hollow shell article as specified in claim 1 wherein at least a portion of one of said end parts overlies a portion of said intermediate part.
9. (Previously Amended) A hollow shell article having an exterior surface comprising:
 - at least one intermediate part including an exterior surface which has a decorative shape and an internal passage;
 - a first end part including an end shell portion which has a shell edge and a tubular extension projecting from said shell edge, wherein a cross-section of said tubular extension is smaller than a cross-section of said decorative shape, the at least one intermediate part surrounding said tubular extension and said internal passage arranged to closely surround said tubular extension; and
 - a second end part having a second end shell portion having an edge and an interior mating structure formed on said edge and receiving said tubular extension, said first and second end parts being configured for:

(i) assembly with said intermediate part retained between said edges of said first and second end parts; and

(ii) forming with said first and second end parts a combined structure having a decorative shape.

10. (Original) A hollow shell article as specified in claim 9 wherein said intermediate part includes a bore for closely surrounding said tubular extension.

11. (Original) A hollow shell article as specified in claim 9 wherein at least said first end part and said intermediate part are fabricated of different color plastic.

12. (Original) A hollow shell article as specified in claim 9 wherein there are provided two or more of said intermediate parts, and wherein at least a portion of one of said intermediate parts overlies a portion of another intermediate part.

13. (Original) A hollow shell article as specified in Claim 9 wherein said tubular extension is provided with external ridges, and wherein said intermediate part has a central bore and at least one projection extending into said central bore.

14. (Currently Amended) A hollow shell article ~~as specified in Claim 1~~ formed of three joined molded plastic parts, comprising:

a first end part having an accessible first external partial shell surfaces, said first end part having a first mating edge structure,

a second end part having an accessible second external partial shell surfaces said second part having a second mating edge structure, and